

COVID-19 Return to School Plan for School Clinic

2023 – 2024

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROCEDURE IS TO OUTLINE IVY PREPARATORY ACADEMY'S SCHOOL CLINIC COMPLIANCE WITH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC GUIDELINES. THESE PROCEDURES HAS BEEN CAREFULLY CONSIDERED TO ADDRESS AND PROMOTE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ALL SCHOLARS, EMPLOYEES AND THE COMMUNITY. THESE PROCEDURES COMPLY WITH LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL GUIDELINES TO ENSURE BEST PRACTICES.

I. School Support

- A. Scholars, faculty, and staff will be highly encouraged to stay home if they are sick. If an individual comes to school with "Sick Day Guidelines" symptoms (see below), they will be sent home until clearance criteria for school return is met.
- B. Ivy Preparatory Academy will continue to support scholars with acute or chronic health conditions. Short-term absences will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Long-term absences may be evaluated if criteria are appropriate for medical leave or other potential medical accommodations (IEP IHP, 504, homebound) through our Scholar Services Department.

II. Scholars may NOT need to come to the Nurse's Office with the following common situations:

- A. Paper cuts, small abrasions, picked scabs
 - 1. Wash hands
 - 2. Use first aid kit to apply band aid
- B. Minor headaches and/or fatigue & scholar is acting ill in the classroom, especially immediately after lunch or recess/activity:
 - 1. Encourage snack or drink water
 - 2. Rest with head down 30 minutes
 - 3. If worsening, send to Nurse's Office

C. Mild indigestion and/or upset stomach especially immediately after lunch or recess/activity:

1. Allow to use the restroom
2. Drink water. Rest for 30 minutes
3. If worsening, send to Nurse's Office

D. Localized bug bite (does not include stings)

1. Apply cool paper towel
2. Use anti-itch relief / alcohol swab, located in first aid kit

E. Clothing or glasses repair

1. Email or call the Nurse's office to determine what supplies are needed
2. Supplies may be sent to the classroom

F. Over the counter medications

1. Over the counter medications will not be kept in the Nurse's office. Parent, guardian, or emergency contact will be required to bring and administer as needed.
2. Scholars will not be allowed to carry any over the counter medications

G. First Aid Kit

1. First Aid supplies will be distributed to all teachers at the start of the school year
2. Replacements can be obtained from the Nurse's Office
3. Please utilize supplies to reduce Nurse Office visits

III. Non-pharmacological Intervention (NPI) Recommendations for Communicable Disease

A. Individual

1. Avoid close contact with people who are ill. Masks are encouraged.
2. Stay home when you are ill.
3. Cover your cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue. Throw the tissue in the trash. Follow with hand hygiene.
4. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. If you do, wash your hands afterwards.
5. Wash hands with soap and water (20 seconds) at least every 2 hours.

6. If you do not have soap and water, use hand sanitizer (60-95% alcohol based).
7. Promote non-contact methods of greeting.

B. Community

1. Promote up-to-date vaccinations, including the flu vaccine, in accordance with the Georgia Department of State Health/ State law.
2. Place hand sanitizer dispensing units at each entrance to the building, the entrance to the Nurse's Office, and every hallway. Have access in every classroom.
3. Environmental cleaning of the Nurse's Office during the school day
 - a. Frequently touched objects and surfaces will be cleaned using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
 - b. Items contaminated with blood, respiratory, or gastrointestinal material.
 - c. Face shields and masks will be cleaned at least daily. Clean goggles/masks will be stored separately; contaminated goggles/masks will be sanitized.

IV. Isolation and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Standards in the Health Office

A. Uniform and close toed shoes are recommended for Nurse's office staff.

B. A reusable jacket to protect scrubs from contamination in the office will be worn as "Standard Precaution" and should be removed if leaving the Nurse's Office. Appropriate PPE must be utilized in conjunction with universal precautions and proper hand hygiene. Consider NASN PPE considerations.

C. Doctor's note requiring an individualized plan of care to stay home.

V. Covid 19 Protocol

A. In the case of an individual who was **diagnosed with COVID-19**, the individual may return to school **five days** after receiving a positive test.

B. In the case of an individual who **has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional for a**

test for COVID-19, such individuals are assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to campus until the individual has been tested. If the results are positive, the individual must remain isolated for five days. If the test is negative, the individual may return to work or school.

C. If the individual **has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the above stay at home period**, the individual must either:

(a) Obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis.

D. If a scholar, staff, or visitor test positive for COVID-19 after being on campus, advise their Manager, School Nurse (scholars) and Human Resource (staff). **This is a reportable condition (see below)**. Likely the healthcare provider who diagnosed COVID-19 has already reported to DPH. Follow these CDC Guidelines:

1. Employees who have been exposed to the virus ("close contact" within 6 feet for greater than 15 minutes) should notify their supervisor, Human Resources, and Primary Care Physician or Georgia Department Public Health for instructions.
2. Employees not considered exposed should self-monitor for symptoms such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath.

Identifying Possible COVID-19 Cases on Campus

- A. Schools must immediately separate any scholar or staff member who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school until the scholar is picked up by a parent, guardian, or emergency contact.
- B. Scholar **MUST** be picked up within 45 minutes of notification.
- C. Staff **MUST** leave the Campus, if unable to drive home they will be kept in wellness room away from others.

- D. COVID-19 Triage form will be used for all symptomatic scholars.
- E. Schools should clean the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (scholar, teacher, or staff) as soon as feasible.
- F. Scholar who report feeling feverish should have temperature checked to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19.

VI. Communicable Disease Monitoring

- A. Collaborate with site Administrative Assistant/Attendance office to record and track scholar absences for illness.
- B. Nurse will monitor site illness symptoms and disease trends.
- C. If 10% of the scholar population at a site call out sick for similar symptoms, report to the Head of Schools.

Screening Questionnaire Information for Faculty

1. When asking individuals if they have symptoms for COVID-19, school systems must only require the individual to provide a “Yes” or “No” to the overall statement that they are symptomatic for COVID-19, as opposed to asking the individual for specific symptom confirmation. School systems are not entitled to collect information during screening on the specific health information of an individual beyond that they are symptomatic.
2. Once it is determined that individuals who responded “Yes” to this question have met the criteria for re-entry, school systems must destroy those individuals’ responses.

VII. Mitigating Covid

- A. All staff are required to participate in Covid testing each Monday upon arrival at school.
- B. All staff are encouraged to wear masks while at school.
- C. Students may voluntarily participate in Covid testing.

- D. Mask wearing is optional for students.
- E. Custodians perform low level daily sanitization of the school including sanitizing offices, halls, classrooms and meeting spaces as well as wiping high touch points.
- F. A sanitizing company performs quarterly high level sanitization of the school.

VIII. Resources

A. NASN Care of Ill Scholars/Staff in School Setting in Response to COVID-19:

https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/NASN/3870c72d-fff9-4ed7-833f-215de278d256/UploadedImages/PDFs/03182020_NASN_Considerations_for_School_Nurses_Regarding_Care_of_Scholars_and_Staff_that_Become_Ill_at_School_or_Arrive_Sick.pdf

B. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020, March 12). Interim guidance for administrators of US K-12 schools and scholar care programs. Plan, Prepare, and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID19),

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-scholarcare/guidance-for-schools.html>

C. American Academy of Pediatrics [2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) webpage](#) regarding how to prevent transmission, how to care for infected individuals, activities when school and day care are closed, how to speak to kids about the virus.

D. Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools

https://rems.ed.gov/Resources_Hazards_Threats_Biological_Hazards.aspx

E. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/transmission.html>.

F. Handwashing and Hand Sanitizer Use at Home, at Play, and Out and About,

<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/pdf/hand-sanitizer-factsheet.pdf>

G. Return to Work/School after COVID19 diagnosis with/without test and/or symptoms:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>

H. NASN letter to school principals and superintendents:

https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/NASN/3870c72d-fff9-4ed7-833f-215de278d256/UploadedImages/PDFs/02282020_NASN_Coronavirus_19_Guidance_for_School_Principals_and_Superintendents.pdf

I. Discontinuation of Home Isolation for those with COVID 19 Symptoms:

M. CDC Healthcare Infection and Preventions FAQs for COVID-19:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-faq.html?deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM26308

N. Discontinuing home isolation guidelines from the CDC:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html?deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM27395

O. AAP COVID-19 Planning Considerations for Return to In-Person Education in Schools:

<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>

J. WHO Return to work guidelines/temp threshold reference:

<https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/getting-workplace-ready-for-covid-19.pdf>

K. How to Reuse PPE:

<https://www.registerednursing.org/how-reuse-ppe/> L. CDC

Optimizing PPE: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hc>